From: Rick.Stones@gehis.co.uk@inetgw

To: Microsoft ATR

Date: 1/24/02 3:18am

Subject: Microsoft Settlement

So you found them 'guilty of abusing their monopoly power but you are going to let them off with the most mild slap on the wrist' is how the settlement reads to almost everyone.

All monopolies that have been broken have resulted in massive benefits for the consumer, and long term the whole economy, I see no reason why you should think that the Microsoft monopoly is one that should be allowed to continue.

The DOJ has made itself look weak and ineffectual, it won, then allowed Microsoft to walk all over it. What respect can you have if you do not follow through clear court victories with appropriate remedies?

At the very very least you _must_ remove all the additional clauses that allow Microsoft to not disclose interfacing information, so people can interface to Microsoft operating systems. Microsoft will deem all useful information a 'security risk' and not disclose it, and nothing will have changed. The world needs prompt and full disclosure of all networking protocols and file formats, including those for Microsoft office and related products. No exception clauses allowed.

Please think again, and significantly toughen the terms of the settlement.

Rick Stones

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